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DOWNHAM MARKET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

FOR THE YEAR 1968

DR. J. McD. HANLEY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.



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FOR THE YEAR 1902

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DOWNHAM MARKET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members of the Public Health Committee:-

Chairman - Mr.J.T.Watson

Mr.A.W.Beazley

Mr.H.E.Brett

Mr.A.E.Clarke

Mr.R.S.Goodrum

Mr.J.E.Tasman

Mr.R.R.Taylor

Mr.J.D.Walmsley

Mr.J.E.Watson

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:-

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr.J.McD.Hanley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.,
Local Health Office,
48 Howdale Road,
Downham Market.

Tel: Downham Market 3241

Also holds the appointments of:-

School Medical Officer,
Assistant County Medical Officer,
Medical Officer of Health to Downham Rural District Council,
Medical Officer of Health to Marshland Rural District Council,
Medical Officer of Health to Freebridge Lynn Rural District
Council,
Medical Officer of Health to King's Lynn Borough Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

D.R.Ford, Esq.,
Council Offices,
Town Hall,
Downham Market.

Tel: Downham Market 3342

Mr. Chairman and Members of Downham Market Urban District Council,

I have the honour to present my report for the year ending December 31st 1968.

County Health Service

Shown below are figures for immunisations carried out by general practitioners and local authority staff in my area during 1968.

Smallpox Vaccination

Primary vaccination		Total	Revaccination		Total
Under 5	5 - 15		Under 5	5 - 15	
263	19		7	61	

Tetanus

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
558	25		617	315	

Whooping Cough

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
524	NIL		188	8	

Diphtheria

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
557	13		607	268	

Poliomyelitis

Primary Courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
580	4		563	64	

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Measles Vaccination

Under 8	8 - 15	Total
635	39	674

B.C.G. Vaccination

Number given the preliminary skin test	Number vaccinated	Number referred for chest X-ray
412	353	8

To my mind, the main event of this year is the institution of measles vaccination. At first vaccine was scarce and only priority groups of young children were treated, but by June we were able to vaccinate all children presented to us.

The effect of this vaccination has been obscured by the already existing measles infection here, and throughout the year the number of cases of measles notified to me remained high. I am sure, however, that the good effect will be seen more easily next year. Measles has already become a rare disease in the United States and will become so in this country.

B.C.G. inoculation against tuberculosis has again been successful. I am pleased at the large numbers of parents who have agreed to have their children protected in this way.

The results of skin tests show that there is virtually no tuberculous infection in our area. This has remained so for the past seven years and is a good indication of the basically healthy situation.

The 'At Risk' register is now firmly established. This is a notification procedure whereby all children with congenital defects are routinely notified to the health authorities. In addition, all factors surrounding the mother's pregnancy and confinement, and the child's condition at birth which might give rise to defect later on, are noted, and an annual medical check is instituted.

Until about ten years ago parents were reluctant to admit their child's defect but as a result of widespread information and publicity in press, radio and television, parents are more aware of the nature of these conditions and demand active measures to alleviate them. This is a welcome change.

Our efforts in health education are being greatly aided by series of programmes presented on television and radio. My staff are still in demand to give advice and specialised information after these broadcasts and this is readily given, but the fact that they are so well presented lightens the burden of the lecturer.

Smoking and lung cancer. The lack of progress in reducing smoking is so depressing that I do not like to comment.

Dr. Malcolm Potts, medical secretary of the International Planned Parenthood Federation stated recently in a report the odd fact that for every woman who dies as a possible result of taking oral contraceptives, at least 1,000 men and women die as a direct result of smoking, but no one worries about it.

Oral contraceptives are available by doctor's prescription only, while cigarettes are freely available everywhere.

The strength of our habits in deciding our prejudices is seldom so well demonstrated.

Finally, I would like to record my appreciation for the assistance and support I have had during the year from the Clerk, Public Health Inspector and members of the Local Health Office staff.

J. McD. Hanley,
Medical Officer of Health.

Water Supply

The following details of water supply have been received from the Wisbech and District Water Board.

Water Analyses 1968 - Downham Urban District

Frequent bacteriological examinations have been undertaken during 1968 on samples from the Board's sourceworks and the distribution system in this area. The results have been of a very high standard. Many chemical analyses have also been carried out.

All new mains were sterilised, samples taken and bacteriological examinations made before the mains were put into service. No connections were permitted until the water in the mains was of the highest standard of purity.

A sample taken on the 31st December, 1968, from the 18" main at Marham Pumping Station (Marham mixed treated water) on which a fluoride estimation was carried out, had a fluoride content of 0.02 parts per million (as F).

There was one case of contamination of the water supply during the year. On the 12th August, 1968, a positive sample was obtained from the 12" main at Marham Works. This was a possible sampling error as an 18" main sample taken immediately before the one from the 12" main was excellent. A repeat sample taken the following day and subsequent samples were excellent.

Summary of Examinations and Analyses

<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Bacteriological Examinations</u>			<u>Chemical Analyses</u>
	<u>No. of Tests Taken</u>	<u>No. of Tests Negative</u>	<u>No. of Tests Positive</u>	
Board's Works - Raw Waters	211	197	14	
Board's Works - Treated Waters	494	493	1	
Taps (Consumers')	53	53	-	
Totals	758	743	15	129

Total of all examinations and analyses = 887

Out of the total of treated water samples and samples taken from consumers' taps 99.8% were negative on examination for organisms of the coliform group. This represents a continued very high standard of bacterial purity.

J.S.Collins,
Chemist and Bacteriologist.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1968

Area in acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,003
Population 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,465
Population 1968 (Estimated)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,290
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62
Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.5
" for Administrative County	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.03
" for England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.9
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Births								6.45
<u>DEATHS</u> (all causes)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58
Rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.57
" for Administrative County	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.04
" for England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.9
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31.25
" for Administrative County	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.33
" for England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.0
<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	64
<u>INFANT DEATHS</u> (deaths under 1 year)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>								
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total Live Births								16.13
" for Administrative County	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Births								NIL
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births								250
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>								
(Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total Live Births)								16.13
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>								
(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total Live Births)								NIL
<u>PERI-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>								
(Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)								31.25
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY</u> (including Abortion)								
Number of Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	NIL
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	NIL

SECTION A

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Norfolk Executive Council,
Horse Fair House, 17 St. Faiths Lane, Norwich, Nor.07S.
- Clerk F.H.Adams, Esq.

2. EAST ANGLIAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Senior Administrative Medical Officer,
Dr.J.B.Ewen, M.D., D.P.H.,
"Croft-Holme", 117 Chesterton Road, Cambridge.

3.(a) GENERAL

Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, Norwich.
West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn.
Jenny Lind Hospital, Norwich.
St.James' Hospital, King's Lynn. (For chronic sick)
High Haven, Downham Market.

(b) MATERNITY

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital (Maternity Unit).
Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge.

(c) INFECTIONS

Isolation Hospital, King's Lynn.
Isolation Hospital, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

(d) SANTORIA

Kelling Sanatorium, Holt.

(e) MENTAL

St.Andrew's Hospital, Norwich.
Hellesdon Hospital, Norwich.
Little Plumstead, Norwich.

4. MATERNITY SERVICES

DISTRICT NURSE:-

Nurse Fox,
2 Churchill Way, Downham Market.

5. AMBULANCE AND HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE

This is a County Council function and is controlled by the Joint Ambulance Committee. It is worked on an Agency basis by the British Red Cross and the Order of St.John and W.V.S.

The Downham Market Urban Area is served by the Downham Market Ambulance.

Infectious Disease cases are conveyed by the King's Lynn Infectious Disease Ambulance.

The Hospital Car Service is administered from the Local Health Office,

15 Nelson Street, King's Lynn.



6. RED CROSS MEDICAL LOAN DEPOT

Downham Market - Mrs. I.M. Burbeck, "Court House".

7. COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Downham Market Child Health Clinic is held at the Health Office, Howdale Road.

An Assistant Medical Officer is in attendance at the session which is held from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month.

I would again like to register my warm appreciation of the voluntary help given at each session by the ladies of the local branch of the British Red Cross.

Home Help Service

The County Home Help Scheme is administered from the Local Health Office. In many cases this service enables the aged and infirm to remain in their homes much longer than would otherwise be possible. Home Helps are engaged on an occasional basis and their work in the community is greatly appreciated.

8. VENEREAL DISEASE CLINIC

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

Males

TUESDAY - 5.30 p.m.

FRIDAY - 4.30 p.m.

Females and Children

TUESDAY - 3.00 p.m.

FRIDAY - 3.00 p.m.

9. DISINFECTION

The disinfection of premises is carried out by the Public Health Inspector.

10. LABORATORY SERVICES

(a) Public Health Laboratory, & Public Health Laboratory,
Bowthorpe Road, Tennis Court Road,
Norwich. Cambridge.

under the direction of Dr. I.M. Dowsett.

(b) Public Analyst:-

Dr. Eric Wood, Ph.D., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,
Clarence House,
6 Clarence Road,
Norwich.



SECTION B

STATISTICAL TABLE, 1968

TABLE NUMBER 1

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All ages	Under 1 weeks	1 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS														
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over						
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over						
B6 OTHER TUBERCULOSIS, INCL. LATE EFFECTS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B18 OTHER INFECTIVE AND PARASITIC DISEASES	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(2) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(3) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - BREAST	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B19(6) OTHER MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS, ETC.	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B21 DIABETES MELLITUS	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B26 CHRONIC RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B28 ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B29 OTHER FORMS OF HEART DISEASE	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B30 CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B32 PNEUMONIA	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B33(1) BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46(6) OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46(9) DISEASES OF SKIN, SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B42 CONGENITAL ANOMALIES	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B45 SYMPTOMS AND ILL-DEFINED CONDITIONS	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BE48 ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE NUMBER 2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1968

Notification in Age Groups

DISEASE	AGES												TOTAL	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
	Under 1	1-2	3	4	5	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	Age Unknown			
MEASLES	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-
DYSENTERY	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
INFECTIVE JAUNDICE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	7	-	-

TABLE NUMBER 3

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1968

(Other than Tuberculosis)

DISEASE	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
MEASLES	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	5
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
INFECTIVE JAUNDICE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	2	-	7

TABLE NUMBER 4

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS - 1968

AGE IN YEARS	NEW CASES				DEATHS				TOTAL
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Age Unknown									
-1									
-5									
-15									
-25		1							1
-35									
-45									
-55				1					1
-65									
65 and over	1								1
TOTALS	1	1		1					3

